

Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P 272317Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8980

S E C R E T OTTAWA 830

EXDIS

SECSTATE PASS SECDEF, CJCS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, MILL, MARR, CA

SUBJ: LRPA PROJECT

REF: USDAO 158/272100Z/FEB 76

1. IN REFTEL DATT REPORTS INDICATIONS RECEIVED FROM LOCKHEED REPRESENTATIVE THAT GOC MAY BE POSITIONING ITSELF TO LIMIT LIABILITY TO LOCKHEED FOR WORK BEGUN PENDING PROJECT DECISION.

2. DATT ALSO REPORTS DND SOURCE AS SAYING THAT AMBASSADOR WARREN HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO OBTAIN WRITTEN ASSUARANCE THAT CANADIAN LRPA PRODUCTION WOULD RECEIVE SAME PRIORITY AS US NAVY P-3 PRODUCTION IN EVENT LOCKHEED BANKRUPTCY.

3. ON RECEIPT THIS INFORMATION DATT CONTACTED MAJOR GENERAL CLOUTIER, MILITARY ASSISTANT TO MAD RICHARDSON, WHO REAFFIRMED STATEMENT RICHARDSON HAD GIVEN AMBASSADOR (OTTAWA 736) TO EFFECT THAT BASIC PROBLEM IS FRONT-END FINANCING, NOT LOCKHEED'S FUTURE. SAME STATEMENT WAS MADE TO AMBASSADOR BY SUPPLY AND SERVICES MINISTER GOYER ON FEBRUARY 25 (OTTAWA 805).

4. WE HAVE YET TO RECEIVE REPORT OF GOC CONSULTATIONS

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IN WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 24, AND NOT CLEAR WHETHER INSTRUC-

TION TO AMBASSADOR WARREN IS SIMPLY TO OBTAIN IN WRITING
STATEMENTS WE UNDERSTAND WERE MADE ORALLY TO THE EFFECT
THAT CANADIAN LRPA PRODUCTION WOULD BE INTERMINGLED WITH
US NAVY P-3 OUTPUT.

5. AT MINIMUM, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE MIDDLE LEVEL
SPECIALISTS ARE BUILDING INTO THEIR PACKAGE AS MUCH
PROTECTION AS THEY CAN GET. AT A MAXIMUM THEY MAY BE
GETTING READY TO PROPOSE TO MINISTERS A PULLBACK ON THE WHOLE
DEAL.

6. PLEASE SEND UP IMMEDIATELY A REPORT ON ANY NEW
APPROACHES AMBASSADOR WARREN MAKES. MEANWHILE WE WILL
CONTINUE TO MONITOR HERE FOR FURTHER INDICATIONS OF GOC
HESITATION IN GOING AHEAD WITH THE LRPA.
ENDERS

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NNN

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